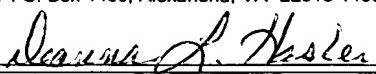


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: November 12, 2004 Name: Deanna L. Haster

Signature: 

FW
BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Darin G. Schaeffer et al.

Appln. No.: 10/769,962

Filed: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND
LOADING DILATOR

Attorney Docket No: 10703/042

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner: Not Known

Art Unit: 3761

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form SB/08A, Four (4) non-US cited references; Transmittal, in duplicate
- Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- No additional fee is required.
- Small Entity.
- An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(____).
- An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Small Entity		Not a Small Entity	
Total		Minus			x \$9=			x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus			x 43=			x \$86=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$145=			+\$290=	
						Total	\$	Total	\$

Fee payment:

- A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

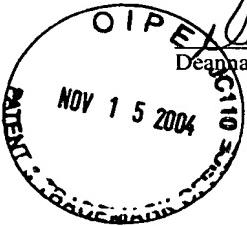
Nov. 12, 2004
Date

Lawrence A. Steward (Reg. No. 32,309)

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 12, 2004.

Deanna L. Hasler
Deanna L. Hasler



Our Case No.: 10703/042

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: 10/769,962

Group Art Unit No.: 3761

Filing Date: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND
LOADING DILATOR

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered by the Examiner and made of record. In accordance with Publication Notice 1276 OG 55 dated August 5, 2003, copies of the listed U.S. documents are not enclosed.

The references now cited are the following:

No.	Date	Name
US 3,659,612	05/02/1972	Shiley et al.
US 6,105,577	08/22/2000	Varner
EP 0 371 752 A1	06/06/1990	Shetty, Devi Cardiothoracic Unit
GB 2 316 321 A	02/25/1998	Smiths Industries Limited
EP 1 044 701 A2	10/18/2000	Smiths Industries Public Limited Company
DE 100 65 604 A1	07/26/2001	Wolfgarten

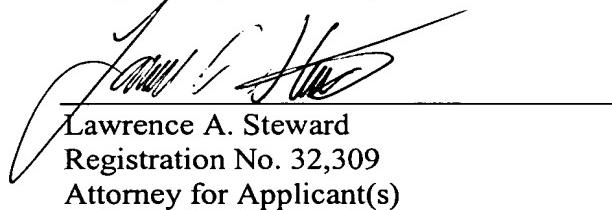
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicants hereby certify that each item of the information disclosed in this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of the present statement.

This Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

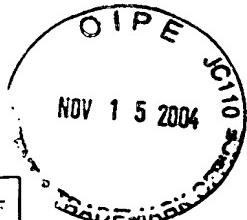
Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence A. Steward
Registration No. 32,309
Attorney for Applicant(s)

LAS/dlh

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 636-0886



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/769,962
		Filing Date	February 2, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.
		Group Art Unit	3761
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	10703/042

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.